

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all Members that it is not in order in debate to refer to any occupant in the gallery.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO
APPOINT MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT CEREMONIES FOR OBSERVANCE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it shall be in order for the Speaker to appoint two Members of the House, one upon the recommendation of the minority leader, to represent the House of Representatives at appropriate ceremonies for the observance of George Washington's birthday to be held on Monday, February 23, 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, February 25, 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER, MAJORITY LEADER AND THE MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR THE HOUSE, NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Tuesday, February 24, 1998, the Speaker, majority leader and minority leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE 189TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BIRTH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise in honor of our country's greatest president whose birthday we celebrate today.

We Republicans honor Lincoln as a founder of our great political party and the first Republican president. We are right to this. But this is not the source of Lincoln's greatness.

Lincoln used the Republican party and the presidency as vehicles to achieve three magnificent things. He preserved this great union of ours. He ended slavery on this continent. He extended to the American entrepreneurial spirit to millions of people of all walks of life. We have a word for that on a subcommittee I chair. We call it "empowerment."

Without a strong union, the United States would not have become the economic power it is today. Because of Lincoln's work, this nation produced the highest standard of living of any in the history of the world. And because the United States remained one nation, it was able to assemble the moral military might that liberated millions this century from three of the worst tyrannies in all of history: nazi Germany, imperial Japan, and the Stalinist "evil empire."

Throughout the world, the name "Lincoln" connotes compassion—and for good reason. Slavery sickened him. "If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong" he said. He worked to restrict its expansion before the civil war; used that military emergency to end it; and forced through the thirteenth amendment to the constitution to prevent its re-instatement.

As Commander in Chief, he made merciful use of his pardoning powers. He was particularly sympathetic to young offenders. "Must I shoot a simple-minded soldier boy, who deserts, while I must not touch a hair of a wily agitator who induces him to desert?" he said, " * * * to silence the agitator and save the boy is not only constitutional, but withal a great mercy."

There was one group of lawbreaker, however, to whom he showed no mercy, slave traders. In one celebrated instance, he refused to commute to life in prison the sentence of person who had committed that hideous crime. Before Lincoln's presidency, that law had gone enforced. After it, there was no need to have it at all.

It was also during Lincoln's administration that homestead legislation became federal policy and land grants to states for the establishment of colleges became law. These measures, along with the example of Lincoln's life story, came to characterize the American entrepreneurial spirit.

As the "empowerment subcommittee" continues to explore ways to assist individuals and communities achieve their full potential, we will carry Lincoln's spirit with us. Lincoln was the personification of "empowerment" in America. Here is how he described it:

"The prudent penniless beginner in the world labors for wages for a while, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account for another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him."

I urge all Americans to pause on this day and all through the year to reflect upon the words and deeds of this extraordinary human being. They do this by visiting the Lincoln Memorial and Ford's Theater, here in Washington, and the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The March issue of Civil War Times

contains an article about that museum's fascinating exhibits. It is my pleasure to submit it for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Civil War Times, March 1998]

A NEW LINCOLN MEMORIAL

(By Al Sandner)

In Fort Wayne, Indiana, one man's admiration gave birth to the largest private collection of Lincoln-related materials in the world. The two-year-old museum that houses the collection combines modern technology with 19th-century artifacts to create a hands-on, in-depth examination of "Lincoln and the American Experiment."

For generations the people of Fort Wayne, Indiana, have cherished the legend that Abraham Lincoln stopped here on the fateful trip that catapulted him into the race for the presidency. They've cherished it and hoped it was true, but couldn't be sure.

Legend had it that Lincoln changed trains here on his way to deliver a speech at the Cooper Institute in New York, where his son, Robert, was a student. The speech made a deep impression on the audience and caught the attention of Northeastern power brokers, vaulting him into the elite company of men regarded as potential presidential candidates. On his journey eastward, he was a regionally known lawyer, soldier, surveyor, and politician. On the return trip his name was being whispered in the halls of power as a contender for the highest office in the land. The Fort Wayne train switch—if it really happened—was related closely enough to a pivotal moment in American history to make any city proud.

Recent research has laid the legend to rest and replaced it with historical fact. "We have determined that on February 23, 1860, Abraham Lincoln did change trains in Fort Wayne while on his way to the Cooper Institute speech," said Gerald Prokopowicz, Lincoln scholar and director of programs for the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne.

In the years since 1860, working on faith and dedication alone, one local businessman and Lincoln admirer created in this mid-sized northeastern Indiana town (closer to Knute Rockne country than to what is usually thought of as the land of Lincoln) what was to become the largest private collection of Lincoln materials in the world, housed in a \$6 million, 30,000-square-foot museum that is both a tribute to Lincoln and an interactive multimedia essay on his impact on America as we know it.

Fort Wayne, a 203-year-old city also known as the final resting place of Johnny Appleseed, doesn't really need an excuse for housing the Lincoln Museum. The institution stands on its own merits, combining relics and reconstructions, videos and period documents, the deadly serious (for example, a slave's manacle) and the whimsical (the tail end of a 1970s Lincoln Versailles with its trademark wheel on the trunk lid and a collection of bands from "Lincoln" brand cigars).

The museum's 11 exhibit galleries ingeniously incorporate hundreds of Lincoln-era artifacts and art works—including the inkwell Lincoln used in signing the Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln family photos and handwritten documents, the president's legal wallet, and his pocket knife. Its research library, with 18,000 volumes and 5,000 photographs, draws Lincoln scholars from across the country.

Traveling exhibits have included one of the few surviving signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation (the Leland-Boker Edition, which was sold during the Civil War to benefit war relief work) and one of 13 copies of the resolution for the 13th Amendment, which banned slavery. More recently, an exhibit called "White House Style" displayed 9

original and 24 replica formal gowns worn by first ladies from Martha Washington and Mary Todd Lincoln to Nancy Reagan and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

You enter under a painting of the U.S. Capitol dome whose construction held such symbolic importance in Lincoln's mind that he insisted the work continue unabated throughout the Civil War. Lincoln's words—prophetic at the time, cautionary and virtually mythic today—are written, painted, and engraved on walls and other surfaces.

Lincoln's words also ring in your ears as you absorb the man and the times he shaped. Throughout, the voices of narrator Ossie Davis and Sam Waterston as Lincoln guide the visitor through Lincoln's life, and the fit seems totally comfortable, perfectly natural. Davis is an actor, writer, producer, and director. Waterston played Lincoln in a television miniseries and gave Lincoln a voice in Ken Burns's landmark Public Broadcasting Service special on the Civil War.

Davis narrates the video that introduces the visitor to the permanent exhibit "Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment." The five-minute film sets the stage, tracing the times and events that shaped the man who soon shaped the times and events around him. America in Lincoln's day was the world's only large-scale experiment in democracy, and many doubted it could long survive. As the film ends, Lincoln addresses the press corps just after his election to the presidency: "Your troubles are over. Mine are just beginning."

So begins your journey to explore the tensions over slavery that threatened the experiment in democracy, the war that was ignited by the tensions, Lincoln's role in guiding the democratic nation through its greatest trial, and the way people have since remembered Lincoln.

Leaving the theater, you step into "Lincoln's America," divided like Caesar's Gaul into three parts: "The Dynamic North," where a single state, New York, runs more factories than the entire South; "The Expanding West"; and "The Prosperous South." Now, as then, the South seems to dominate, to attract more attention than its size and economic power should warrant.

The focal point of the room is a full-scale, rough-hewn Mississippi River flatboat. You walk under the vast tiller, manned by a life-size, six-foot-four-inch Lincoln mannequin standing on the deckhouse's flat roof. A pass under the boat's keel places you in the South; cotton bales and barrels stand around the dock. Touch the rough wood, finger the cold steel of a slave manacle. Read a list of slaves for sale. Read Lincoln's words: "If slavery isn't wrong, nothing is wrong."

Just as the debate over slavery led the nation to war, so are you led into the next galleries. "Prairie Politician to President" and "Speaking Out." In this general area is a reproduction of the sort of room where Lincoln grew up, read, and worked out his sums. His copy of Parson Weems's *Life of Franklin* is on display here. Somewhere in this area, you learn (if you didn't already know) that Lincoln was fascinated by technology and held the only patent ever granted to a president of the United States—for a system he invented to refloat boats. Artifacts here include an invitation to the dance where he met his future wife, Mary Todd.

The "Speaking Out" gallery reproduces the Chicago meeting hall where the Republicans nominated Lincoln for president. A life-size statue of Lincoln stands at a podium on the bunting-draped stage, while a dramatic re-creation of the Lincoln-Douglas debates play on a large video screen behind him and his words fill the air.

It is here, too, that you can sit at an ingeniously arranged desk between like masks of

Lincoln and Douglas, and—thanks to cleverly arranged mirrors—see yourself sitting at eye-level with these two great orators. You may suffer by comparison, but it is a fascinating experience.

Nearby is another interesting comparison—the earliest known photographic portraits of Lincoln, taken in April and May of 1846, followed by photographs of him during the war years. He grew haggard under the strain of his wartime presidency, but not as drained and devastated as you might expect.

Next, the visitor is thrown into the cauldron of war. The events and battles of the most critical years of U.S. history are described in a time line that circles the walls of the "Civil War" gallery. A bank of six touch-screen computer monitors allows the visitor to read Lincoln's mail, redecorate the White House as Mary Todd Lincoln did, take a trivia quiz, or refight major Civil War battles. In the game "You Be the General," Union and Confederate positions are mapped out on the computer monitor, and you are allowed to make the moves: sort of a computer-generated chess game based on actual events. One player reported reversing history and winning the First Battle of Bull Run for the North. Another refought Gettysburg, but was never quite sure what he was doing—or whether he won or lost. (Fortunately for the Union, this would-be general was born a century too late.)

"The Fiery Trial" is the name given to the next mini-theater presentation. In a small, comfortable auditorium, three seven-minute multimedia programs explore different facets of Lincoln and the Civil War. In "Lincoln's Soldiers," the letters of Corporal George Squire of Fort Wayne are used to describe life in the Union army. "Lincoln: Commander-in-Chief" explains the problems the president had in finding a general to bring victory to the North. And "Lincoln and Emancipation" tells about his role in ending slavery. Again, the voices of Davis and Waterston create an aura of warmth and familiarity—in deadly contrast to the stereo booms and strobe flashes of cannon fire. Outside the door of the theater are a cavalry officer's sword, which you can draw partly out of its scabbard; an infantryman's heavy, black leather backpack, which you can heft onto your shoulders; and—as a symbol of this first modern war—a half-scale model of an early Gatling gun, precursor of the machine gun. The Gatling gun was introduced during the war but was rarely used.

Like Billy Pilgrim, visitor from another time and another war in Kurt Vonnegut's anti-World War II novel *Slaughterhouse Five*, it's easy to get "unstuck in time" here. In the free-flowing layout, you could wander into, say, "Ford's Theater and Beyond" and then into "A Lincoln Family Album." The former displays a replica of the theater box the president occupied that ill-fated Good Friday night while describing the conspiracy that led to his death and transformed him from controversial politician to American legend. The latter displays Lincoln's own photographs of his children while an upright piano plays recordings of Mary Lincoln's favorite songs, including "Skip-to-Mi-Lu." Children's attractions in this area include games, clothes for dress-up, and an interactive Lincoln family portrait.

Stepping back just a bit in time, you can revisit the fringes of the Civil War gallery, sit at a desk much like Lincoln's, and face some of the same problems he did during his regular public sessions (which he called his "Public Opinion Bath"). You sit in a chair looking into a faithful reproduction of Lincoln's office, are presented with pleas the president heard during these sessions, decide how to handle the request, and then push a button to learn what Lincoln did. Letters of

discharge from the army, original notes, and other documents are used to illustrate how he handled callers and their pleas. After making all these decisions, you may have the leisure to sit back and notice how meticulously Lincoln's office has been re-created—right down to the wallpaper and the width of the carpet stripes.

Now things lighten up. Blinking lights outline a movie theater marquee that announces today's attraction: "Lincoln at the Movies." On screen, television movie critic Gene Siskel teams up with Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian David Herbert Donald to critique movies that depict the life of Lincoln—using the format Siskel and fellow Chicago critic Roger Ebert use on their television series, *At the Movies*. They discuss actors and interpretations over the years—from Henry Fonda's Young Mister Lincoln to Waterston's interpretation in the television miniseries *Gore Vidal's Lincoln*. Walter Houston, Raymond Massey, and Mary Tyler Moore (as Mary Todd Lincoln in *Gore Vidal's Lincoln*) are also discussed from historic, theatrical, cinematic, and purely personal points of view.

The fun continues. In "Remembering Lincoln" a trail of red lights crosses an oversize map of the United States from coast to coast. This, the "Lincoln Highway," was America's first transcontinental thoroughfare. It serves as the backdrop for a collection of things named for Lincoln over the past 160 years—from an automobile to cities and towns, schools, manufacturing companies, fruit growers, and a surprising number of cigars. Sticking out of the wall below the map, as though the brakes had failed while someone was backing up, juts the tail end of a Lincoln Versailles.

Across the aisle is "Dear Mr. Lincoln," a station where children are given pencil and paper and encouraged to add to the exhibit by writing a letter or postcard to the 16th president. The good ones can become part of the exhibit. "I regret to inform you they are still assassinating people," one young person reportedly wrote early on. Even parents join in. "My son was a reluctant reader until he read a story about you in the 2nd grade," wrote one mother. "Thank you. I live in a better place because of you."

Wall-sized photographs of history as it was made at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., illustrate the theme of the next-to-last gallery, "The Experiment Continues." It seems to show Lincoln's moral beliefs still have an impact on American society today. Here is Marion Anderson, barred by the Daughters of the American Revolution from other Washington venues, performing outdoors for hundreds of thousands of enthralled Americans in 1939. Here is Martin Luther King, Jr., telling America "I have a dream" in 1963. And there are Vietnam veterans opposed to the war struggling unsuccessfully to seize the memorial in 1971.

Now the museum visitor is truly drawn into the American Experiment—by voting on four key questions: (1) Is the American Experiment a success? (2) Is it still alive today? (3) Does it work for most Americans? (4) Are you confident of its future success?

The tally? In the two years since the museum opened, some 27,000 visitors have said "yes" to each question. However, the "no" votes have varied noticeably. Questions 1, 2, and 4 have received about 19,000 "no" votes. Meanwhile, number 3 has drawn about 16,000 "no" votes—indicating a large number of absentions.

The museum tour ends on a colorful note as the visitor passes through "A Lincoln Gallery," which displays art inspired by Lincoln. The art works are taken from the museum's own extensive collection.

In the lobby, opposite the 23-foot-long "A. Lincoln" signature and his 12-foot-high portrait is a well-stocked gift shop with books,

video tapes, CD-ROMs, games, statues, and replicas of White House china. Under the signature, on the lower level, is the library, with more than 200,000 newspaper and magazine clippings regarding Lincoln; more than 5,000 original photographs (including those from Lincoln's own family album); 200 documents signed by Lincoln; 7,000 19th-century prints, engravings, newspapers, and music sheets; 18,000 books; scores of period artifacts and Lincoln family belongings, and hundreds of paintings and sculptures. Here, too, is the traveling exhibit area—most recently the site of the "White House Style" show.

So how did this \$6 million, 30,000-square-foot tribute to Lincoln and interactive multimedia essay on his impact on American life come to be created in a mid-sized northeastern Indian city? In 1905, Arthur Hall was forming an insurance company in Fort Wayne. A great admirer of Lincoln, he wrote to Robert Todd Lincoln, the son whose attendance at the Cooper Institute had provided Abraham Lincoln with a platform for his watershed 1860 speech, for permission to use his father's name. Along with his approval, Todd sent a photograph of his father—the same one that is the basis for the engraving on the \$5 bill today.

The company grew into what is today one of the nation's largest financial services organizations. The Lincoln National Corporation opened its first museum on Lincoln's birthday in 1928. The new museum, now owned by the nonprofit Lincoln National Foundation, opened October 1, 1995, in Lincoln National headquarters—less than a mile from the site of the railroad station where Lincoln, we now know, changed trains on February 23, 1860.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SANCHEZ addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 1515

CELEBRATING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PITTS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the people of Lithuania who will be celebrating their Independence day next Monday. With the passage of each year, Lithuania grows into a more stable, prosperous and Democratic country. To ensure this growth continues in Lithuania and the rest of the Baltic States, the United States must remain committed to supporting the region.

Lithuania is rich in history and has proven its resilience. This country has continually been occupied by rogue regimes which exploited its resources and people. However, the desire for democracy continued to grow within the Lithuanian people. After four decades of suppression, Lithuania finally achieved freedom in 1990 and reestablished the independent Lithuanian state.

I do not think that many Americans paid attention to the recent presi-

dential elections in Lithuania. I wish they would have. They should be proud of the fact that an American citizen was elected the new President. Valdas Adamkus, from my home State of Illinois, is a shining example of the Democratic reforms which have come to this former Soviet state. His election testifies to the desire of the Lithuanian people to do away with ex-Communists and to embrace western ideas.

President Adamkus and his family fled the country as the Communists took over during World War II. After spending part of his teens in a Nazi camp, President Adamkus emigrated to the United States. Here he forged a truly distinguished career as a regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency. With the many years spent in America, president Adamkus will be able to bring fresh non-Soviet ideas to government.

Now is the time for the United States to recognize the struggle the Lithuanians have endured for democracy and freedom. On January 16 President Clinton took the first step in realizing the importance of this region of the world. On that day he signed the U.S.-Baltic Charter. While the charter does not contain any security guarantees, it does prove to the Baltics the continuing commitment of the United States to their country. Additionally, the charter commits the Baltic States to democracy, rule of law, free markets and human rights.

However, what the charter should not do is close the door on the expansion of NATO to include the Baltic region. Recently, we have begun to hear that NATO does not need to be expanded. Some fear the expansion will dilute the military alliance which is the essence of NATO. They would rather have the European Union do much of the work for the emerging democracies while leaving NATO to deal with Russia. This is very shortsighted.

What we need to do is focus on the region, providing guidance and support while these countries are developing. The United States should not pull back and leave these countries stranded in a strategic uncertainty. Enlargement, with the need to meet the rigorous military and political standards will continue to promote calm in the region. We need to leave the door open for expansion so that Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia have a goal to strive towards as they continue to develop.

Mr. Speaker, again I would like to congratulate the Lithuanian people on another year of independence. After all their hard work and struggle, they are beginning to reap the rewards. The United States should wholeheartedly embrace Lithuania and the entire Baltic region through the expansion of NATO so these emerging democracies can continue to prosper.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. VISCLOSKEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. COX addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial of Philippine independence, and to recognize some true heroes of World War II, the Filipino World War II veterans.

Filipino soldiers were drafted into the Armed Forces by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and promised full benefits as American veterans. But those benefits were rescinded by the 79th Congress in 1946. The gentleman from New York (Mr. BEN GILMAN) and I have now introduced a Filipino Veterans Equity Act, H.R. 836, which would restore the benefits promised when these soldiers were drafted into service by the President of the United States and fought side by side with soldiers from the American mainland against a common enemy.

Over 175 of our colleagues have co-sponsored H.R. 836, in support of these brave veterans. A most appropriate way to commemorate the centennial year of Philippine independence is to pass H.R. 836 and restore honor and equity to the Filipino veterans of World War II.

As Congressman of the congressional district which includes more Filipino American residents than any other except for Hawaii, I am very honored to have been chosen as their Representative in Congress. I look forward to participating in the 1998 celebrations commemorating Independence Day and the spirit, resourcefulness, warmth and compassion of the people of the Philippines and of Filipino Americans.

June 12, 1898 is the day the Philippines gained its independence from Spain and June 12 is celebrated in the Philippines as Independence Day by order of President Diosdado Macapagal.

This year, in the Philippines and in the numerous Filipino-American communities in the United States, lengthy celebrations are being prepared that will occur throughout the entire year. In my hometown of San Diego, a civic parade showcasing Filipino culture is among the many events planned to commemorate this milestone.

Historians tell us that the Philippines was "discovered" in 1521 by Portuguese sailor Ferdinand Magellan. In spite of a bloody battle between Filipino freedom fighters and the invaders,